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2 ## **ABSTRACT**

3   A system and method for providing a plurality of client applications access to
4 data in a distributed file system. In various embodiments, read requests are separated
5 from write requests and the read requests are processed by dedicated read servers. A
6 plurality of read servers are coupled to the client applications and each read server
7 reads file data from the distributed file system and returns the file data to the client
8 applications. A write server writes data to the distributed file system. Various
9 embodiments are described for separating read requests from write requests and
10 transmitting read requests to the read servers write requests to the write server.